

*We cannot count on having stationed forces in the right place at the right time, all the time. This suggests the importance of long-range assets, to provide the flexibility to respond rapidly from CONUS to trouble spots around the globe. The B-2 can reach any point on the globe from just three bases—Guam, Diego Garcia, and the U.S.

*Once in the theater, U.S. assets must be both survivable and highly effective against an invading enemy force. The B-2 bomber has a combination of range, payload, and stealth that is unmatched by any other system. And, precision munitions are continuing to enhance the value of all tactical aircraft, including the B-2 bomber.

*The value of stealth for conducting operations in a high-threat environment has been clear ever since the air operations against Iraq began in early 1991. The F-117A Stealth Fighter conducted countless missions over Baghdad without any losses and are widely cited for the success of the air war. Yet the F-117A has many operational limitations—it is a medium altitude attack platform capable of effective operations only at night in clear weather.

*The B-2 is an all-altitude, all-weather platform that is more stealthy than the F-117A and that carries many more individually-targetable weapons. The B-2's advanced capabilities go well beyond those of the F-117A or any other non-stealthy bomber.

*A number of recent analytic studies have shown that against many plausible invading forces, 20 or 21 B-2 bombers are simply not enough force to stop enemy invaders short of their important strategic objectives.

*The cost of additional B-2's is high relative to non-stealthy, short-range tactical aircraft. But so is the cost of failing to stop a determined enemy short of his strategic objectives. The inherent flexibility and capability of the B-2 bomber will be most important in those cases where we are surprised, where an enemy doesn't do what we had expected, and/or where we did not plan to have to fight.

I commend these points to the attention of your Subcommittee, and would urge you to undertake a searching review of the assumptions and assertions that underlie present U.S. military contingency plans. I thank you for inviting me to submit these thoughts for the Subcommittee's consideration and for your Subcommittee's careful attention to these important questions for national security.

Sincerely,

SAM NUNN.●

REMEMBERING TURKEY'S GENOCIDE OF THE ARMENIANS

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, America has always been a haven for victims of oppression and it is fitting that Members of this body rise every year to mark April 24—the day that commemorates Turkey's genocide of the Armenians. In the first instance in the 20th century when a state declared war on a minority group, an estimated 1.5 million people were killed. We rise today to show our solidarity with the victims and our condemnation of the slaughterers.

Many Armenian survivors came to the United States, where they found sanctuary. They have prospered and their vibrant community as a whole has become an integral part of American life and the democratic process. But while realizing and contributing to

the American dream, they always remembered their Armenian origins, and never forgot their national sorrow. As Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel has written, the Armenian people are rooted firmly "in their collective and immutable memory where death itself is vanquished, because the memory of death is received as a symbol, an instant of eternity."

Their sharing of the Armenian historical experience with non-Armenians has served as a stark reminder for us all of the universality of human evil and the strength of the human spirit, even at the darkest moments. The resilience of the survivors and Armenians the world over have inspired in other peoples feelings of shared sorrow and admiration. We mourn with them, and simultaneously take pride in their ability to overcome a great historical injustice, the consciousness of which never disappears.

Unhappily for them, Armenians have been called upon to be our teachers. From their terrible suffering we have learned that states may not make war upon minority groups, and the international community will neither tolerate nor forget such transgressions. From their ability to transcend the saddest moments of their history, we take heart and recommit ourselves to remembrance, celebration, and vigilance.●

TRIBUTE TO JOE STERNE OF THE BALTIMORE SUN

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, this month, Joseph R.L. Sterne will be retiring as editorial page editor of the Baltimore Sun—a job he has held for more than 44 years.

I have known Joe for more than 20 of those years. As editor, he has been one of the best. I cannot remember a time when his name was not at the top of the paper's masthead. I read his editorials and he has read my press releases. I think I liked his better. His editorials were him—they were fair, professional, insightful, instructive, tough and thorough.

I've learned a lot from them. So did Baltimore and so did Maryland—whether it was an observation or suggestion regarding foreign policy or firm recommendation on how to improve Baltimore's housing policy or Federal tax issues.

Joe started his career in 1953 covering the police beat. But he didn't stay there long. He quickly moved on to report on some of the most important moments in American history—from the civil rights movement to the Vietnam war to working in Africa and Germany covering international affairs. That was his true love. But he never forgot that a great hometown paper begins with a great hometown.

His kudos and criticisms spurred all of us to do our best. But then, he asked no less of us than he asked of himself. He is one of the best. I will miss Joe Sterne. Baltimore will miss Joe Sterne. I wish him our best.●

"PEACE! WHERE ART THOU?"

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I request that the statement entitled "Peace! Where Art Thou?" written by my constituent, Ruben Ortiz-Paez, be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I encourage my colleagues to read this thoughtful essay.

The statement follows:

"PEACE! WHERE ART THOU?"

(By Ruben Ortiz Paez)

At a meeting to discuss World Peace, its Chairman closed the meeting with the following remarks: "After considerable effort, we are still groping like the Blind to come up with a significant dialogue which would contribute to the cause of Peace." After slight applause, he offered to field questions.

A blind man raised his hand and he was recognized. He stood up and this is what he had to say: "Mr. Chairman and Members: I really don't have a question, but if you will bear with me, I do have a few words to say. "The Chairman approved and he continued: "I don't think that it is fair to suggest that we haven't come up with solutions; the best minds in the world are devoted to finding Peace, and so far, they have come up with Zilch!

"Peace has always been desired, but there are leaders among nations who seem to derive Satanic pleasure in obstructing or derailing Peace initiatives! How then in Heaven's name, could Peace be expected to flourish? Here's a splendid suggestion: A sure way, is for us to embrace and spread The charity of Love! For Peace is Love's God-child, and it will flourish wherever Love and compassion dwell in the Hearts of Men!

"I know that it's difficult to understand; and some would dare to say that it's just a pipe-dream! But not so, if my logic is considered with an open mind; reinforced with the Undeniable Truth, that Love is more contagious than all of the deadly viruses, so far identified by medical science and research!

"Here then, Mr. Chairman, I humbly offer the following, which I hope you may be able to consider as an acceptable contribution to the cause of Peace. It will probably be dismissed as an illusion by the skeptics, due to its spiritual connotation, but I ask you sir, what other choice do we have?

"It takes just one person who's a 'carrier' to start an epidemic! So what are we waiting for? Let's be the 'carriers' to start an epidemic of Love! It isn't all that difficult, all that it takes is for us to shed our shyness; our fear that our affection could be misunderstood! It will be well worth it, and surely the Prince of Peace, will bless us for it, since his exhortation 'Love your neighbor as yourself' means not only the one next door, but all with whom we share the Earth!

"Dear Members: If I can visualize all these things despite my blindness, just try to imagine, the great and wonderful things that you will be able to accomplish with God's gift of sight and optimism, in a world firmly determined to live in Peace, in the fast-approaching New Millennium!

"Thank you for allowing me to express my pent-up emotions and my layman's assessment of such a pressing and complex subject. May God bless you!"

The blind man received a standing ovation and the applause was deafening!●

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, On February 3, of this year, Carolyn

Stradley testified before the Small Business Committee regarding the problems she had starting a paving company. It was one of the most interesting and compelling statements I have heard since I came to the Senate, and I have heard thousands.

Mr. President, without further elaboration, I ask that Mrs. Stradley's statement be printed in the RECORD for all to see and appreciate.

The statement follows:

TESTIMONY OF CAROLYN A. STRADLEY

Good morning. Thank you for your time today.

My name is Carolyn Stradley, I am the founder and owner of C&S Paving, Inc. in Marietta, Georgia.

I was born in the Appalachian Mountains at home in a two-room shack, without electricity or water. I had never seen indoor plumbing until I went to school.

My mother died when I was only 11 years old and my father, an alcoholic, walked away. For two years I survived in the mountains, then at 13 years old, I moved to Atlanta, sometimes sleeping in the back of cars and bathing at the bus station. When I entered high school, I did so without front teeth. Working at night, going to school in the day time. I married at 15 years old, was kicked out of school at 16 for being pregnant, became a mother at 17, caring for a totally disabled husband at 21 and became a widow at age 26.

I started C&S Paving, Inc. out of necessity, not by choice, from the back of a pickup truck, shoveling asphalt into potholes. But I quickly found out that in 1979 very few people would take a single, 32-year-old woman in the asphalt paving business seriously.

When I tried to purchase equipment and trucks in 1979, the sales people just laughed at me. So, I asked my brother, who was unemployed and only had an 8th grade education to work with me for 25 percent of this new company. It was necessary for us to work 14-16 hours a day, so I asked my brother's wife if she would care for the children and answer the telephone—for another 25 percent of the company.

When the company was first started, I went to the Small Business Administration and asked for an 8-A package, but was told I did not qualify, but I persisted and finally was able to obtain a package after many years of trying. After its costly completion, and several months of waiting C&S Paving was again denied entrance into the program.

However, I did not give up and tried several years later and once again was told that I was not and had not ever been disadvantaged. I saw other people—some third generation company and college graduates—qualify and permitted to negotiate jobs that I was not allowed to bid on. I felt very angry and betrayed. Sadly, it seems to me that the 8(a) Program does not include white females whose circumstances would otherwise qualify them as being disadvantaged. In my case that was totally unfair and an abrogation of Congress' intent for the program.

In 1986, I realized that I could no longer work with my brother because of a total different set of values in business and life. I told him if he would just get my name off the personal guarantees, he could have everything. He could not and demanded \$500,000 for his and his wife's shares. My options, as I saw them: murder, suicide, or find a way to buy him out.

I went to several banks before I found one that believed a woman could run an asphalt paving company, however, they would only make the loan if the SBA would guarantee it.

Business was great for the first 6 years into a 10-year loan. However, several of our job sites were hit by two tornadoes and one flood and the most rain that was ever recorded in Georgia.

The small bank that I had been dealing with was purchased in 1993 by a large multi-state group. The loan was then "called" at a time when I could not work because of weather—the fact that I had never missed a payment for six years meant absolutely nothing to the bank.

I then requested a meeting with the Small Business Administration. I met with Fred Stone, District Director for the State of Georgia, Ray Gibeau, Chief, Portfolio Management and Janis Burda, Loan Liquidation Specialist. It was at this meeting that I realized that these three people were completely different than anyone I had ever dealt with before at the SBA. They were very professional, understood small business and were willing to go the extra mile.

It was with their help and guidance that C & S Paving was able to restructure the remaining balance of the loan. As a result of SBA's recognition that C & S Paving was a company worth saving, we have grown, prospered and are currently planning to build a new building this year which will enable us to hire about 10 more people this year.

Without SBA's help, I would have lost everything that I had worked my whole life for and over 30 period would have lost their jobs. Therefore, I am living proof that the SBA works for this Nation by helping small business create jobs and economic independence for its citizens. My survival has provided encouragement to many other people, especially women who wish to start their own companies.

From its humble beginning, by the reinvestment of profits back into the Company, C & S Paving was awarded the largest single contract ever let to a female-owned company through open-competitive bids. Other notable projects we have constructed are the running tracks inside the Olympic Stadium and the Georgia Dome.

Additionally, we were honored by President Bush in 1989 at the White House as Second Runner Up for the National Small Business Person of the Year as well as the Small Business Person of the Year Award for 1996 by The Small Business Council of America.

I share all of this with you, hopefully to help you understand the passion I feel towards the Small Business Administration. It is not perfect by any means, but to millions of women of this country, who by no fault of their own, do not have a father, husband, the education or community standing to ask for help—SBA's Women Business Ownership Program is their only glimmer of light and hope.

Today, you can be the vehicle that helps those that seek to help themselves by recognizing the true value that the Small Business Administration has and the difference it has made in so many lives and the tremendous contributions that small business makes to this country's economy and to the world.

This Agency's programs are not a hand out, but truly a hand up. Please allow us to hope.

Hope sees the invisible; feels the intangible and hope achieves the impossible.●

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today on Take Our Daughters to Work Day, to encourage young women and girls across America to set their sights high, and to reach for their dreams.

Since my childhood, the composition of the work force has changed dramatically, and job opportunities have significantly increased for young women and girls. Today, women comprise 46 percent of the paid labor force, and according to Bureau of Labor and Statistics, by the year 2000, roughly half of new entrants into the labor force will be women.

Despite these gains, studies show that during adolescence, girls often receive less attention in school and suffer from lower expectations than do boys. They also set their future sights lower than their male counterparts. This is reflected in a New York Times/CBS poll, which found that over one third of girls surveyed believed that there are more advantages to being a man than a woman. For many girls, low self-esteem can lead them to lose confidence in their abilities, which may prevent them from achieving their fullest potential later in life.

In this day and age, we cannot accept reduced opportunities for girls and women from either an equity standpoint or an economic one. Today, women are equally responsible for the well-being of their families. So it is not just their own futures that are at stake, but the future of their children and their children's children. It is our responsibility to set high standards and provide them with the experiences and role models that will inspire them to be extraordinary leaders of the future.

We need to do far more to challenge our daughters' notions of women's work. While most school-age girls plan to work, they do not plan for careers that could sustain themselves and their families. In 1992, 53.8 million women were employed and only 3.5 million were employed in nontraditional occupations. Further, women working in nontraditional jobs earn 20 to 30 percent more than women in traditionally female jobs. Women remain significantly under-represented in careers requiring math and science skills—women comprise only 11 percent of today's technical work force, and only 17 percent of all doctors are women. Nearly 75 percent of tomorrow's jobs will require the use of computers, but girls comprise less than one-third of students enrolled in computer courses. And a study by the Glass Ceiling Commission found that women occupy only 5 percent of senior-level management of the top Fortune 1000 industrial and 500 service companies. As leaders and as parents, we must do our best to ensure that American girls are prepared to step into those high-wage jobs and management positions that command higher salaries in the work force.

I was honored to endorse again, this year, Take Our Daughters to Work Day, organized by the Maine's Women's Development Institute, in my home State. Girls in Maine and across the Nation will have another opportunity to see first-hand that they have a range of life options. In the past, Take